

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BAGHDA 01506 030529Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 /075 W
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4933
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAGHDAD 1506

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SHUM, IZ
SUBJECT: BAGHDAD TO HOST HUMAN RIGHTS SYMPOSIUM

1. IRAQ NEWS AGENCY CARRIED FOLLOWING STORY AUGUST 29:

AN INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND
DEMOCRATIC FREEDOMS WILL BE HELD IN BAGHDAD EARLY NEXT
YEAR TO MARK THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR FOR THE RELEASE OF
POLITICAL DETAINEES AND PRISONERS.

THE SYMPOSIUM, ORGANIZED BY THE SECRETARIAT
GENERAL OF THE ARAB JURISTS FEDERATION, WILL DISCUSS
STUDIES AND RESEARCH PAPERS DEALING WITH HUMAN RIGHTS
AND DOMOCRATIC FREEDOMS IN REGARDS TO POLITICAL
AND ECONOMIC RIGHTS, FREEDOM OF PRESS, PUBLIC
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PAGE 02 BAGHDA 01506 030529Z

FREEDOMS, PROSECUTION OF POLITICAL DETAINEES AND RACIAL
DISCRIMINATION.

IT WILL BE ATTENDED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF MEMBER
ORGANIZATIONS OF THE ARAB JURISTS FEDERATION, THE ARAE
ARAB JOURNALISTS FEDERATION, THE ARAB LAWYERS FEDERA-
TION AND THE ARAB LEAGUE IN ADDITION TO OBSERVERS AND

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

THE SYMPOSIUM IS EXPECTED TO ISSUE A DECLARATION ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRATIC FREEDOMS IN THE ARAB HOMELAND CARRYING PROVISIONS TO GUARANTEE HUMAN RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS IN THE ARAB HOMELAND.

DELEGATES WITH OBSERVER CAPACITY WILL COME FROM AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL, THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DEMOCRATIC LAWYERS, THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR PROGRESS (AUSTRIA), THE NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS CONFERENCE (GENEVA), THE SPECIAL COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS (GENEVA) AND THE ORGANIZATION FOR THE LIBERATION OF PEOPLES (ITALY).

REPRESENTATIVES FROM BRANCHES OF THE ARAB JURISTS FEDERATION IN THE U.S.A., BRITAIN AND GENEVA WILL ALSO PARTICIPATE IN THE SYMPOSIUM.

2. COMMENT: ASSUME THAT IRAQI REGIME CAN HANDLE ARAB DELEGATES, BUT IT MAY FACE EMBARRASSING QUESTIONS FROM SOME OF THE INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS IT PLANS TO INVITE. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT PROSPECTIVE ARRIVAL "EARLY NEXT YEAR" OF DELEGATES FROM ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL WILL PROMPT IRAQIS TO DO SOME HOUSE-CLEANING. IF SO, HUMAN RIGHTS SYMPOSIUM MAY BE CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 BAGHDA 01506 030529Z

USEFUL SPUR TO IMPROVE IRAQI POLICE AND JUDICIAL PROCEDURES. WE DOUBT THAT THIS IS INTENTION OF IRAQI ORGANIZERS, WHO PROBABLY EXPECT CONFERENCE TO FOCUS ON PLIGHT OF ARAB POLITICAL PRISONERS IN ISRAEL AND SYRIA.
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